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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: September 26, 2013

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# **August Jobless Rates Fall Seasonally in All Michigan Regional Labor Markets**

*Lansing* – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates dropped in all of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas in August, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels declined seasonally in the majority of regions over the month.

"August jobless rates declined in all regions due to seasonal workforce reductions as fewer individuals actively sought employment. Summer hiring decreased typically in many regions from the July peak," said Michael Williams, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "However, payroll jobs increased in manufacturing and professional and business services over the month due to recalls of workers from short-term retooling layoffs in the auto industry."

From July to August, regional jobless rate declines ranged from 0.6 to 1.7 percentage points, with a significant median reduction of 1.2 percentage points. Fifteen of the 17 areas reported unemployment rate declines over a full percentage point. The largest rate decreases were recorded in the Monroe and Flint Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), with drops of 1.7 and 1.5 percentage points respectively. Jobless rates fell in both the Lansing-East Lansing and the Saginaw-Saginaw Township North MSAs by 1.4 percentage points. In August, all of Michigan's major labor markets areas displayed unemployment rates of 10.0 percent or below.

## ***Jobless Rates Mixed Over Year***

From August 2012 to August 2013, the majority of regional unemployment rate changes were moderate, with rate variations of only plus or minus 0.4 of a percentage point in 16 of the 17 areas. Since August 2012, jobless rates increased slightly in eight regions with a median advance of only 0.2 of a percentage point. Six areas posted mostly minor unemployment rate declines over the year, with the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA as the only notable exception, with a rate reduction of 1.2 percentage points. The jobless rates in the Battle Creek and Monroe MSAs along with the Northwest Lower Michigan region were unchanged over the year.

## ***Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year***

Over the month, total employment declined seasonally in 14 of 17 regions with a moderate median reduction of 0.5 percent. By far the largest over-the-month drop (-1.9 percent) was posted in the Northwest Lower Michigan region, which was due to seasonal declines in tourism-related employment. Total employment rose over the month in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Monroe, and Saginaw-Saginaw-Township North MSAs.

Since August 2012, total employment advanced in 13 regions, with increases averaging 1.5 percent. The most pronounced over-the-year gains were recorded in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Muskegon-Norton Shores, and Holland-Grand Haven MSAs. Total employment was down slightly since August 2012 in three regions; the Niles-Benton Harbor, Monroe, and Saginaw-Saginaw Township North MSAs. Total employment was essentially unchanged over the year in the Bay City MSA.

### ***Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Up Over Year***

From July to August, workforce levels declined seasonally in 16 regions and increased slightly in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA. From August 2012 to August 2013, labor force levels advanced in 14 regions, posting an average increase of 1.3 percent. Workforce levels fell slightly over the year in the Niles-Benton Harbor and Monroe MSAs, and were essentially unchanged in the Saginaw-Saginaw Township North MSA.

### ***Manufacturing and Professional and Business Services Push August Payroll Jobs Upward***

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 19,000 or 0.5 percent in August to 4,086,000. August job gains were recorded in manufacturing (+10,000) and professional and business services (+9,000). Mostly minor offsetting gains and losses were reported in the remaining industry sectors over the month.

The job advance in manufacturing primarily reflected recalls from the July vacation shutdown/retooling period within the auto industry. Due to revamped production schedules over the last several years, July auto supplier retooling layoffs and subsequent August recalls have been subdued. The majority of the August advance in professional and business services occurred in the temporary help sub-sector (+7,000).

In August, payroll jobs increased in 11 of the 14 metropolitan areas in the state. Job gains ranged from 0.1 to 1.0 percent with a moderate average hike of 0.5 percent. Jobs edged down over the month in the Jackson and Holland-Grand Haven MSAs, and were essentially unchanged in the Bay City MSA.

From August 2012 to August 2013, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 66,000 or 1.6 percent. The bulk of the over-the-year job gains were recorded in five industry sectors; manufacturing (+17,000), professional and business services (+16,000), leisure and hospitality services (+15,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+14,000), and education and health services (+5,000). Michigan's remaining industry sectors recorded minor offsetting gains and losses.

Since August 2012, overall payroll jobs rose in 11 metropolitan regions and declined in three. Gains averaged 1.4 percent over the year, while area job declines were mainly minor. The largest over-the-year percentage job advances were registered in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Muskegon-Norton Shores, and Ann Arbor MSAs.

### ***County Jobless Rates Down Over Month, Up Slightly Over Year***

Eighty-two of Michigan's 83 counties recorded seasonal unemployment rate reductions in August. Jobless rate declines were significant, with a median drop of 1.3 percentage points. The unemployment rate in Livingston County was unchanged over the month.

From August 2012 to August 2013, jobless rates rose in 48 counties, declined in 31 and were unchanged in four. Over-the-year increases and decreases were marginal, with median hikes or reductions of only 0.3 of a percentage point.

*Note: Data in this release is **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data.*

A breakdown of seasonally unadjusted August workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for August

*Note to Editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."*

(more)

	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>ANN ARBOR MSA</b> (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	180,200	186,400	183,900	-1.3%	2.1%
Total Employment	169,500	172,900	172,500	-0.2%	1.8%
Unemployment	10,800	13,600	11,400	-16.2%	5.6%
Rate (percent)	6.0	7.3	6.2		

Contact: Mark Reffitt, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 492-5550

	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BATTLE CREEK MSA</b> (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,000	65,300	64,300	-1.5%	0.5%
Total Employment	59,200	59,700	59,600	-0.2%	0.7%
Unemployment	4,800	5,600	4,700	-16.1%	-2.1%
Rate (percent)	7.4	8.5	7.4		

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 841-5634

	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BAY CITY MSA</b> (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,900	53,000	52,000	-1.9%	0.2%
Total Employment	47,600	47,900	47,600	-0.6%	0.0%
Unemployment	4,300	5,200	4,500	-13.5%	4.7%
Rate (percent)	8.3	9.8	8.6		

Contact: Jeff Aula, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3144

	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA</b> <b>(Data in thousands)</b> (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,032	2,064	2,067	0.1%	1.7%
Total Employment	1,809	1,849	1,865	0.9%	3.1%
Unemployment	223	214	202	-5.6%	-9.4%
Rate (percent)	11.0	10.4	9.8		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>FLINT MSA</b> (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	183,700	189,900	185,500	-2.3%	1.0%
Total Employment	166,300	168,700	167,500	-0.7%	0.7%
Unemployment	17,500	21,200	18,000	-15.1%	2.9%
Rate (percent)	9.5	11.2	9.7		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA</b>					
(Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	389,100	410,600	403,900	-1.6%	3.8%
Total Employment	362,500	379,900	377,900	-0.5%	4.2%
Unemployment	26,500	30,700	26,000	-15.3%	-1.9%
Rate (percent)	6.8	7.5	6.4		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA</b>					
(Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	130,400	135,600	133,000	-1.9%	2.0%
Total Employment	121,600	125,100	124,400	-0.6%	2.3%
Unemployment	8,800	10,500	8,700	-17.1%	-1.1%
Rate (percent)	6.7	7.7	6.5		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>JACKSON MSA</b>					
(Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	70,300	72,200	70,700	-2.1%	0.6%
Total Employment	64,300	65,000	64,600	-0.6%	0.5%
Unemployment	6,000	7,100	6,100	-14.1%	1.7%
Rate (percent)	8.6	9.9	8.7		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA</b>					
(Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	160,400	164,100	162,000	-1.3%	1.0%
Total Employment	148,400	150,300	150,200	-0.1%	1.2%
Unemployment	12,000	13,800	11,900	-13.8%	-0.8%
Rate (percent)	7.5	8.4	7.3		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA</b>					
(Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	228,100	233,800	229,100	-2.0%	0.4%
Total Employment	211,300	213,000	212,000	-0.5%	0.3%
Unemployment	16,800	20,800	17,100	-17.8%	1.8%
Rate (percent)	7.4	8.9	7.5		

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(more)

	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MONROE MSA</b> (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	69,600	70,400	69,300	-1.6%	-0.4%
Total Employment	64,000	63,700	63,800	0.2%	-0.3%
Unemployment	5,500	6,700	5,500	-17.9%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	7.9	9.6	7.9		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA</b> (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	84,500	88,400	86,600	-2.0%	2.5%
Total Employment	77,100	79,800	79,200	-0.8%	2.7%
Unemployment	7,400	8,600	7,400	-14.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	8.8	9.8	8.5		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA</b> (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,800	74,700	73,400	-1.7%	-0.5%
Total Employment	67,300	67,400	67,000	-0.6%	-0.4%
Unemployment	6,500	7,300	6,400	-12.3%	-1.5%
Rate (percent)	8.8	9.8	8.7		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA</b> (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	90,200	91,600	90,200	-1.5%	0.0%
Total Employment	82,500	82,200	82,300	0.1%	-0.2%
Unemployment	7,700	9,400	7,900	-16.0%	2.6%
Rate (percent)	8.6	10.2	8.8		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>UPPER PENINSULA LMA</b> (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	148,200	151,200	149,200	-1.3%	0.7%
Total Employment	135,800	136,500	136,400	-0.1%	0.4%
Unemployment	12,400	14,700	12,800	-12.9%	3.2%
Rate (percent)	8.4	9.7	8.6		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	87,700	89,700	88,300	-1.6%	0.7%
Total Employment	79,300	79,600	79,400	-0.3%	0.1%
Unemployment	8,500	10,100	8,900	-11.9%	4.7%
Rate (percent)	9.6	11.3	10.0		

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<b>NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	152,200	157,900	153,400	-2.8%	0.8%
Total Employment	139,300	143,200	140,500	-1.9%	0.9%
Unemployment	12,800	14,700	12,900	-12.2%	0.8%
Rate (percent)	8.4	9.3	8.4		

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	<u>Aug-12</u>	<u>Jul-13</u>	<u>Aug-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	4,691	4,805	4,760	-0.9%	1.5%
Total Employment	4,257	4,339	4,345	0.1%	2.1%
Unemployment	434	466	415	-10.9%	-4.4%
Rate (percent)	9.2	9.7	8.7		

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**Note:**

The table above contains **seasonally unadjusted** data for Michigan for 2013 and 2012, which should be used in comparison with data for Michigan regions or counties.

DTMB released earlier the **seasonally adjusted** August 2013 unemployment rate for Michigan (9.0 percent), which is best used for:

- Identifying recent Michigan workforce trends
- Conducting comparisons with unemployment rates for the U.S. and other states

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# **MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AUGUST 2013**

1	Mackinac County	4.3	43	Houghton County	9.0
2	Barry County	5.8	44	Manistee County	9.0
3	Leelanau County	6.0	45	Crawford County	9.1
4	Clinton County	6.2	46	Shiawassee County	9.1
5	Washtenaw County	6.2	47	Alpena County	9.2
6	Eaton County	6.3	48	Gratiot County	9.2
7	Cheboygan County	6.4	49	Emmet County	9.3
8	Kent County	6.4	50	Oceana County	9.3
9	Menominee County	6.4	51	Charlevoix County	9.4
10	Ottawa County	6.5	52	Hillsdale County	9.4
11	Allegan County	6.6	53	Luce County	9.4
12	Grand Traverse County	6.8	54	Macomb County	9.5
13	Dickinson County	6.9	55	Lapeer County	9.6
14	Cass County	7.1	56	Mecosta County	9.6
15	Isabella County	7.1	57	Genesee County	9.7
16	Ionia County	7.2	58	Sanilac County	9.7
17	Kalamazoo County	7.2	59	Ogemaw County	9.8
18	Midland County	7.2	60	Otsego County	9.8
19	Calhoun County	7.4	61	Keweenaw County	9.9
20	Livingston County	7.4	62	St. Clair County	10.0
21	Newaygo County	7.4	63	Tuscola County	10.0
22	St. Joseph County	7.7	64	Gogebic County	10.2
23	Van Buren County	7.7	65	Chippewa County	10.5
24	Marquette County	7.8	66	Osceola County	10.5
25	Mason County	7.9	67	Iosco County	10.7
26	Monroe County	7.9	68	Montcalm County	10.7
27	Huron County	8.1	69	Roscommon County	10.9
28	Ingham County	8.3	70	Wayne County	11.1
29	Benzie County	8.4	71	Missaukee County	11.3
30	Kalkaska County	8.4	72	Clare County	11.4
31	Iron County	8.5	73	Arenac County	11.5
32	Muskegon County	8.5	74	Presque Isle County	11.6
33	Oakland County	8.5	75	Schoolcraft County	11.8
34	Bay County	8.6	76	Wexford County	11.9
35	Branch County	8.6	77	Gladwin County	12.1
36	Lenawee County	8.6	78	Lake County	12.1
37	Berrien County	8.7	79	Ontonagon County	12.4
38	Jackson County	8.7	80	Alcona County	13.0
39	Delta County	8.8	81	Montmorency County	13.4
40	Saginaw County	8.8	82	Oscoda County	14.7
41	Alger County	8.9	83	Baraga County	15.3
42	Antrim County	8.9			

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